

DISTRIBUTION OF THE PUPIL GROWTH FUND (STAFFING AND NON-STAFFING) FOR 2019/20

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Forum on the distribution to schools of additional funding, retained from the Dedicated Schools Grant, to ensure that infant class sizes are not breached or schools do not experience financial detriment as a result of Basic Need expansion.
2. To inform the Forum of the process for funding growth in a Secondary School due to Basic need.

Information and Advice

3. Schools Forum has agreed previously to the creation of a £1,000,000 pupil growth fund (staffing and non-staffing) for 2019/20, criteria were agreed to ensure that this ring-fenced fund was appropriately distributed to schools with any surplus to be added to the following year's balance.
4. The funding for 2019/20 includes £120,019 carried forward from 2018/19 as an underspend therefore the effective budget for coming financial year is £1,120,019.
5. For 2019/20 the ESFA allocated Nottinghamshire £3.085 million through their growth formula as part of the Schools Block of the DSG. This allocation has been used to fund all pupil growth including the primary pupil growth fund (£1 million), new free schools (£0.249 million) and pupil number variations for schools as a result of basic need (£0.567 million). The unallocated balance of £1.269m has been retained and effectively ring fenced for future growth in the Non-ISB reserve. This approach will protect against the uncertainty around the level of growth funding in future years.

2019-20 Growth Fund Allocations

6. Schools Forum has agreed previously to revenue fund schools expanded as a result of basic need by PAN + 25 for the autumn and Spring terms throughout the lifetime of the growth, i.e. from NCY R to 6.
7. Schools Forum has agreed previously to revenue fund schools expanded as a result of basic need by PAN + 15 (1/2 Form of entry) in NCY R, 2, 3 and 5 for the autumn and Spring terms.

8. Schools Forum has agreed previously to revenue fund schools where exceptional or over PAN allocations have taken place resulting in unavoidable breaches of infant classes. The level of funding to be determined on a case by case basis.
9. 11 schools received a 3rd term of PGF support in academic year 2018/19 payable in financial year 2018/19 which was agreed previously. This funding amounted to 11 x £14,159 = £155,749. (Appendix A)
The arrangements for funding academies is such that the LA recoups the summer allocation on the APT, for 2019/20 4 academies were recouped 4 x £14,159 = £56,636. Therefore a net impact of this being £99,113
10. 1 multi academy trust has received £91,696 to support revenue costs associated with the establishment of the Watnall Road Free school.
11. 14 schools require lagged funding to mitigate the impact previous basic need expansions either by PAN + 15 (1/2 FE) or by PAN + 30 (1 FE). **Appendix A** These schools will be funded for the Autumn and Spring terms 2019/20. This funding amounted to 14x £31,277 = £437,878
12. Schools expanded previously which are not recruiting to a sufficiently high level to justify lagged funding have been removed.
13. The PGF requirement for commitments in financial year 2019/20 will be £628,960 from a budget of £1,120,019 creating a balance of £491,059.
14. This ring-fenced fund has been enough to meet current identified need, if any further need arises during the year this will be reported. Any underspend will be returned to Schools Forum and be rolled forward to the 2020/21 allocation.

Growth due to Basic Need in Secondary Schools

15. In Summer 2018 a working group of Schools Forum members wrote a report detailing the circumstances in which a Secondary School should be eligible for growth funding and the process for allocating the additional funding.
16. The report was presented to Schools Forum in September 2018 and members agreed the recommendation that “funding should be allocated to secondary schools through the varying of pupil numbers arising from any formal request by the LA to increase the PAN”.
17. Whilst setting the schools and academies budgets for 2019/20 it became clear to NCC officers that the recommendation was not detailed enough and that the method for varying numbers was not fully documented. This report therefore seeks further approval on the method used for varying pupils in order to allocate additional funding to schools and academies.
18. Funding for secondary growth is for additional pupils entering a school in year 7 only due to an increase to their PAN a result of basic need.
19. The additional funding is derived by varying the pupil numbers for the school in their funding formula so will include AWPU and then additional pupil led factors based on the characteristics of the school’s population. **Appendix B** illustrates how the variation of numbers will be calculated

20. If the following year's October census shows that the funded level of growth funded did not transpire, an adjustment will be made to the following year's budget to claw-back the excess funding .

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Schools Forum:

1. Notes the content of the report and agrees the allocations made from the growth fund for Autumn 19 and Spring 20.
2. Continues to monitor the use of this fund throughout 2019-20 & considers the level of funding & criteria for future years.
3. Approves the method used for allocating additional funding to secondary schools and academies whose pupil numbers are increasing due to Basic Need.

Mike Sharpe
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Pupil Growth Fund allocations as at June 2019**Appendix A****A 3rd term commitments agreed in 2018 – Summer 2019**

		£
Barnby Road	Newark	14,159
Kneesall	Newark	14,159
Lambley	Gedling	14,159
Mapplewells	Ashfield	14,159
Arnold Mill	Gedling	14,159
Edgewood	Ashfield	14,159
Dalestorth	Ashfield	14,159
Heymann	Rushcliffe	14,159
Sutton cum Lound	Bassetlaw	14,159
Horsendale	Broxtowe	14,159
St Peter's	Mansfield	14,159
		155,749.
Academies recouped through APT x 4		
St Peters, Mapplewells, Horsendale & Barnby Road		- 56,636
<u>Total</u>		<u>99,113</u>

B Free School revenue funding

Watnall Road (FHT) Ashfield	91,969
<u>Total</u>	<u>91,969</u>

C PAN Increase due to basic need – 2 terms support – Autumn 2019 & Spring 2020

Beardall Fields	Ashfield	31,277
Stanhope	Gedling	31,277
Kingsway	Ashfield	31,277
Ordsall	Bassetlaw	31,277
Sutton Road	Mansfield	31,277
Roundhill	Broxtowe	31,277
Pierrepoint Gamston	Rushcliffe	31,277
Sir John Sherbrooke	Gedling	31,277
Killisick	Gedling	31,277
Brookside	Rushcliffe	31,277
Mapplewells	Ashfield	31,277
Carlton Central Junior	Gedling	31,277
Lantern Lane	Rushcliffe	31,277
Crescent	Mansfield	31,277
<u>Total</u>		<u>437,878</u>
<u>Total</u>		<u>628,960</u>